Funds for displaced fishermen of Andhra Pradesh

*95. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the status of the National Fishermen's Fund;

(b) the funds disbursed from this fund during 2005-06;

(c) the funds proposed to be disbursed during 2006-07;

(d) whether any fund has been released for the displaced traditional fishermen of Kolleru lake in Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) whether any proposal has been received from Andhra Pradesh Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) There is no National Fishermen's Fund. However, for the welfare of fishermen, a Centrally Sponsored 'National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen' is implemented with the following three components:—

(i) Development of model Fishermen Villages : To provide three basic civic amenities for fishermen,. *i.e.*, construction of houses, tubewells/ handpumps for drinking water and community hall as a common working place/recreation.

(ii) Saving-cum-Relief : To provide fmancial support to fishermen in the lean period (fishing banned period).

(iii) Group Accident Insurance for Active Fishermen : Fishermen licensed/ identified or registered with the State/UT Governments are insured for Rs.50,000/-against death or permanent total disability and Rs.25,000/- for partial disability.

Under the said Scheme, during the years, 2005-06 and 2006-07, Central assistance of Rs. 33.00 crore and Rs. 23.80 crores respectively was released to States/Union Territories.

(d) and (e) No, Sir.

Increasing the frequency of trains

†*96. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take any action for increasing the frequency of the Jodhpur-Guwahati train for running it three days a week instead of one day being run at present; Jaipur-Bangaluru train for running it four days a week instead of two days being run at present; and Jaipur- Chennai train for running it daily

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.